



# BALTIMORE CITY BRANCH

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

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*\*Founded April 4, 1912*

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MWMCA

June 17, 2011

Marlene Dortch

Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW

Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard in the matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations; (WT Proceeding - No. 11-65). As President of the NAACP, Baltimore Chapter, I value the efforts AT&T has made in its commitment to diversity in terms of procurement, philanthropy and hiring practices. The company has proved its dedication to providing opportunities for advancement in employment, business partnerships and charitable donations in all communities. Further, the company has a strong record of supporting a unionized workforce which, we believe, benefits all workers.

Today, the wireless industry is changing the way we live, the way we communicate and the way we learn. But even as advancements in broadband communication and video streaming are reaching wealthy people and businesses in major cities, others lack the access to cutting edge technology. Amazingly, 24 million Americans still do not have access to broadband in their homes. And, even as products and services improve for U.S. consumers, we trail other nations in high-speed internet.

Allowing AT&T to combine with T-Mobile means more people will be able to share in the digital revolution. Combined, the companies can provide greater service offerings than either one could alone. Their merger will increase competition within the wireless industry, lowering prices for consumers and fostering new innovation.

AT&T has a long and rich history as a brand consumers trust and as an employer that takes care of its people. I hope you will move to approve this merger.

Sincerely,

Tessa Hill-Aston  
President

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